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APPENDIX

Localities and year of collecting (up to 1920) of examined specimens of *Perdix p. italica*.
Piedmont: (province of Torino) Piossasco 1882; (prov. Alessandria) Voltaggio 1889.
Veneto: (prov. Verona) Villafranca 1899 & 1900, Costa San Massimo 1908, Pescantina 1906; (prov. Vicenza) near Bassano 1897; (prov. Padova) near Padova 1884, Colli Euganei 1878 & 1897. *Friuli*: (prov. Udine) Udine 1899. *Emilia Romagna*: (prov. Reggio Emilia) Reggio Emilia 1920. *Tuscany*: (prov. Firenze) Firenze 1881 & 1897, Castelfalfi 1877, Fiesole 1875, Mugello 1905, Vicchio di Mugello 1903, Barberino di Mugello 1881, Empoli 1878, M. Calvana Prato 1877, Prato 1884, Collegalli 1863 & 1864, Greve 1900, Badia di Passignano in Chianti 1905 [**type locality**]; (prov. Pisa) Laiatice 1881, Saline di Volterra 1878, S. Donnino Volterra 1882, Pontedera 1877, Spedaletto 1868 & 1870, Pallaia S. Miniato 1877; (prov. Arezzo) Fabbriche 1904, Lucignano 1876, Gargonza 1910, Montevarchi 1893; (prov. Grosseto) Grosseto 1883, Maremma 1879; (prov. Siena) Radda in Chianti 1876, Amiata 1903, Meleto 1880, 1883 & 1908. *Umbria*: (prov. Perugia) Foligno 1880; (prov. Terni) Terni 1881, Orvieto 1896. *Latium*: (prov. Roma) Roma 1902, Tor Paterno' 1901. *Campania*: (prov. Napoli) Napoli pre-1904.

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Nest and eggs of the Angola Lark *Mirafra angolensis*

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According to Mackworth-Praed & Grant (1962) the nest and eggs of the Angola Lark *Mirafra angolensis* are "apparently undescribed". On 17 October 1986 I flushed a tight-sitting lark from its nest containing 3 eggs.

The lark perched in full view on a nearby mound: it appeared stumpy with a short tail and dark back. It was collected and proved to be a ♀ Angola Lark with wing 77 mm and weighing more than 32.5 g.

The nest was on a gentle slope several hundred metres from the Chitunta River, on the plain of that name, Mwinilunga District, North Western Province, Zambia, (11°29'S, 24°22'E), 1390 m, a.s.l. The nest was placed on the slight slope of a small mound in black dambo (= shallow valley) soil, amongst scattered knee-high termite mounds shaped like Prussian helmets. The plain was covered in rather sparse and short fresh green grass (having sometime previously been burnt over) with patches of low-lying and fruiting 'Lollo' berry. The nest was slightly domed, the roof being of fresh and dry stems, the cup sunk into the ground under a small tuft of fresh and dry blades, all under the fleshy leaves of a 'Lollo' berry plant. The cup was built of coarse, dry grasses, with 'chopped' grass rootlets on the rim, thinly lined with very fine fresh grasses. The rim was c. 20 mm thick, the cup 65 mm in diameter and 42 mm deep.

The eggs are regular, rather glossy ovals, with a creamy ground, liberally and densely spotted medium-brown mostly obscuring ashy-grey shell markings, forming an ill-defined zone on the broad end. The eggs measure: 21.0 × 15.0, 20.7 × 14.8 and 20.5 × 14.7 mm. They contained medium-sized, but varied, embryos and totalled 7.1 g in weight.

Benson *et al.* (1971) suggest that *M. angolensis* is related to the Clapper Lark *M. apiata*, but Hall & Moreau (1970) place the former in the Rufous-naped Lark *M. africana* superspecies. *M. africana* and *M. rufocinnamomea* also occur in Mwinilunga, a nest of the latter species containing 3 eggs soon to hatch having been found the previous day on another plain. Previously my experience with breeding *Mirafra* larks was limited to the above latter 2 species, all in Choma, Southern Province. From that locality, 23 nests of *M. africana* have been found (1969–1986), the average size of 56 eggs being 22.1 × 15.8 mm; 19 fresh eggs averaged 2.9 g. During the same period, 13 nests of Flappet Lark *M. rufocinnamomea* were discovered, 20 eggs averaging 20.6 × 14.8 mm, the average weight of 6 being 2.26 g.

The clutch of *M. angolensis* is intermediate in appearance between the typically paler and larger eggs of *M. africana* (which often show extensive grey undermarkings) and the generally narrower and warmer brown spotting of *M. rufocinnamomea* eggs. But this is as far as one may comment until a representative series of *M. angolensis* becomes available for comparison.

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